

AMATEUR NIGHTS AND THEATRICALS

The "Union Sparrows" (Gewerkschaftsspatzen) in Augsburg is a group of union youth who have written a variety show which has been shown more than 50 times throughout Bavaria. It has been used for entertainment, raising money, recruiting new members to the youth groups, and for setting up youth sections in new communities. A second show is now in production.

Week-ends, camps, and short-term schools always put an amateur night on the program. Frequently half the audience has participated before the evening is over. Those I saw were presided over by a master of ceremonies who was not the group leader but who kept a lively program going for more than an hour.

Christmas programs and other festivals in the factories and union halls are all planned and carried through by members of the groups.